

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Docket-222

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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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MAY 13 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Larry Combest  
House of Representatives  
1511 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Combest:

This is in response to your letter of April 16, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Ralph Stutes, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). Mr. Stutes is specifically concerned about the potential impact of our final rules on radio remote controlled airplane hobbyists.

Model airplane users have shared spectrum on a secondary basis with industrial users for over 25 years. The low power industrial user and the radio control model airplane hobbyists effectively share spectrum through geographic separation. We are enclosing the Report and Order in GEN Docket 82-181, 47 FR 51875 (1982), which provided the current 50 channels for radio controlled model airplanes. These rules, adopted at the behest of the model airplane community, provide no protection from interference from licensed sources. We further note that the radio environment is inherently hazardous and that, as noted by Mr. Stutes, even primary allocations suffer from problems. For example, model aircraft users receive interference from other model aircraft users and from certain TV channels. Thus, model aircraft must be, and in fact are, capable of co-existing with some interference.

The Commission is seeking to work with all parties on this matter. To this end, FCC staff has met with the two industry groups representing model airplane users, the Academy of Model Aeronautics and the Sport Flyers Association, to discuss their concerns and methods of expanding capacity for

# Congressional

DUE: 4-30-93

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AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

LARRY COMBEST  
19TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS  
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

April 16, 1993

PRB  
92-235

1775

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The Honorable James H. Quello  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Quello:

Please find enclosed a copy of correspondence from one of my constituents, Mr. Ralph Stutes. I would appreciate any assistance or information you can provide regarding this matter.

Thank you in advance for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Larry Combest

LC/msb  
Enclosure

MAR 24 1993

Ralph C. Stutes  
2905 Aurora Lane  
Midland, TX 79707

March 18, 1993

The Honorable Larry Combest  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Combest:

Thank you very much for your response and concern regarding the FCC's NPRM Docket 92-235. I and the many thousands of Radio Control Model Enthusiast sincerely appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

I have read with interest the comments that the FCC has issued, but I want to alert you to the significance of what they are saying. I **STRONGLY** do not feel that they are telling you the whole truth regarding the operation of our radio equipment. ~~First interference to the users of radio communication operations is a nuisance~~

ACM rec. FCC model  
plane  
2/26/93

142312  
GAZ  
BCK  
3/31/93

At these speeds and low altitudes, there simply is not time for the model or pilot to recover from these unwanted "glitches", and this leads to the model crashing. Don Lowe, the current President of the AMA, has worked with the Air Force in its Remote Piloted Vehicle program, and he can probably better emphasize the cost and the sophistication that military programs go to in order to avoid this problem, but due to reality of costs involved, modelers cannot afford the cost that will be necessary to make our system impervious to unwanted interference. All we can do is to attempt to keep unwanted signals as far away from our frequencies as possible, and use common sense and restraint in our operation of model aircraft, which we really do.

Again, I ask you to support our cause and to work to find an alternate solution to this Proposed Rule 92-235.

Sincerely,

*Ralph C. Stutes*

Ralph C. Stutes